

Government, seemed, to his apprehension, to be thrown into the scale, and arrayed against the unfortunate Africans. We trust the American people will mark this fact.—*Emanc.*

#### "What have Abolitionists Done?"

As a further reply to this question, we invite attention to the annexed letter from an intelligent lady who has been spending a twelvemonth in the midst of "slavery as it is." We copy from the last Emancipator.

#### Letter from the Extreme South.

The following letter comes from an esteemed and gifted mind, resident in the heart of the extreme South.

Nov. 15th, 1839.

Rev. Mr. Leavitt:

Sir,—You are too well acquainted with my garulous pen to expect a final pause from it, when in the land of the slave, without something touching slavery. I believe you have had, from different sources, some of my first impressions in this house of bondage: whether any thing of later date, I do not know. My friends have taken the liberty of making what use they pleased of my letters, and although not designed for publication, I did not deem it of any consequence to myself, provided no mention was made of names or dates. But I confess I have no ambition to obtain celebrity within the jurisdiction of "Judge Lynch," although among the unequalled knights of the gallant South. For notwithstanding the politeness of their bearings, towards ladies, I have no confidence in them, since they have no respect for woman.

Some of my friends congratulated me, at my departure for the South, upon my approaching disenthralment from the wiles of error and prejudice in which, in common with all abolitionists, I was entangled. They believed that a personal acquaintance with the patriarchal institutions of slavery, if it did not wholly reconcile me to the system as one of divine appointment, would at least modify my opinions respecting it, by its many redeeming qualities, which abolitionists had either concealed, or of which they were culpably ignorant.

Perhaps I could not have been placed in a situation better calculated to produce such an effect, than the one I have occupied during the year past. And at its close, truth compels me to repeat, what I have asserted from time to time, during its progress, that while in its outline slavery is such precisely as I expected to find it, the filling up of the picture is, on the whole, worse than I had imagined. The dark shades being much darker, and the light ones fewer and less distinguishable than I had hoped to find them, in a community having the reputation of possessing a high moral and religious character.

I could give you several facts corroborative, were it necessary, of my own collecting; but, sir, they cannot be necessary. Facts of the same character have been given sufficient to convince the most sceptical, and to silence the most obstinate apologist for slavery. I prefer, and so I am sure you do, to dwell upon a more pleasant part of the subject. But I shall still be compelled to make an undesirable repetition of the first person singular of the proverbs, for which allow me to bespeak your forbearance.

You are aware, sir, that it was problematical with some of my friends, whether an abolitionist could remain any time at the South. You know, too, that your correspondent came here the open and avowed enemy of slavery, and the friend of the slave: and though one of the most humble, she is not the least ardent or uncompromising coadjutor, in the cause. It is not arrogance to say, that the test has been fairly made, the result of which shows, that a recognized abolitionist, of the most "fanatical" stamp, may remain for a season, (one year, at least) in the families, and at the firesides of slaveholders, and be treated by all with respect and politeness—nay, even kindness: and that, too, while bearing on every proper occasion, and seeking occasion to bear, a decided and unflinching testimony against slavery in all its modifications—while advocating the cause of the oppressed, face to face with the oppressor.

I owe it to HIS praise, who holds in his own hand the hearts of men, to say, that strong as was the prejudice existing against me, on account of my anti-slavery principles, previously to my appearance here, He has, in one short year, enabled me to nearly, if not wholly, outlive those prejudices. Nor has He merely protected me from threatening danger and given me the respect and confidence of a community from which I could expect neither—but He has also been pleased to bless my feeble efforts, far beyond my highest hopes.

Where the seed was scarcely sown, in "great weakness," He has permitted me to see the ripened harvest. You will rejoice to know that many here have been disposed to read the publications of our society, who had never seen one a year ago, and that several who were totally ignorant of the character, designs and measures of abolitionists, having heard of them only as represented by their enemies, have acknowledged that their prejudices against them were either wholly or in part removed—some of them confessing that they believed they were actuated by the purest motives. For example, the gentleman in whose family I now am, asserted that he did not blame me for being an abolitionist; and were he at the north he did not doubt he should be one too; that he believed slavery was sinful, &c.

Some not only read and converse candidly on the subject, but declare their willingness to be convinced of their duty in the matter and do it.

One, an estimable, intelligent man, and Christian, of candid mind and benevolent heart—entered upon the subject with a promise not to dismiss it until satisfied respecting his own duty, and prepared to do it. The result is, that after a thorough and prayerful investigation, he has come to the decision which every Christian would arrive at, by the same process—that emancipation is practicable and safe, and an imperative duty. He gives his unqualified approval of the principles and measures of abolitionists, and is prepared to join them heart and hand. He has proved the sincerity of his conversion by virtually emancipating his own slaves, and is now making arrangements for their removal to a free state, whether he will himself conduct them, and see them comfortably settled on farms of their own. Mr. — enters with interest into all the efforts for the slave, and, together with a lady here, has promised to observe the concert for the enslaved. They seem delighted to hear of a prayer meeting for such an object. This lady, too, is, as far as informed, I think a genuine abolitionist, although, as I understand, it is out of her power to emancipate.

Now, my brother, is there nothing grateful to a benevolent spirit in facts like these? If not, then has abolitionism done nothing for the slave. And then the intended sarcasm of our opposers, that abolitionists, in their hot-headed, brainless zeal and mistaken philanthropy, have only riveted more firmly the fetters of the slave by their misguided efforts, has become sound logic and veritable statement.

I might add other interesting facts, all going to show the progress and effects of anti-slavery efforts and principles, in a community where a few months since, abolitionism and abolitionists were synonymous with whatever was contemptible and vile.—I should like to repeat some statements made to me by Mr. —, the gentleman referred to above. But I will not anticipate him; the public will hear from his own pen, in due time. You will not, however, understand too much, or suppose that the triumph of liberty is won here—that prejudice, and avarice, and selfishness are dethroned, and justice and benevolence reign "sovereign of the ascendant." Nor will you "despise the day of small things," or be slow to discern in these, as in greater achievements, His hand who doeth all things well.

Before closing this long communication, allow me, sir, to add one more paragraph, for the purpose, (if I may not be deemed assuming,) of making a suggestion. From conversation with different individuals respecting the state of feeling in the churches here on the subject of slavery, I feel confident that a measure, not as yet employed to considerable extent, that I know, is imperiously demanded. Such, I am informed, is the existing feeling, that would Christian abolitionists address a letter or memorial to professors of religion, as such, descending upon the question of slavery only in a moral point of view, and entreating their prayerful examination of it, such an address, couched in the language of kindness and love, would produce, I believe, a powerful effect. I am anxious for the trial. Please think of it—God, I believe, is preparing his people for such an appeal.

Permit me to subscribe, your humble fellow-laborer for the slave.

#### The President.

The reader will be interested to notice the manner in which our anti-slavery brethren of the press announce the late nominations at Harrisburgh.—The Emancipator has the following:

#### THE HARRISBURGH CONVENTION.

Well, the agony is over, and HENRY CLAY is laid upon the shelf. And no man of ordinary intelligence can doubt or deny that it is the Anti-Slavery feeling of the North which has done it—in connection with his own ostentatious and infamous pro-slavery demonstrations in Congress.—Praise to God for a great Anti-Slavery victory.—A man of high talents, of great distinction, of long political services, of boundless personal popularity, has been openly rejected for the Presidency of this republic, on account of his devotion to slavery. Set up a monument of progress there. Let the winds tell the tale. Let the slaveholders hear the news. Let foreign nations hear it. Let O'Connell hear it. Let the slaves hear it. A slaveholder is incapacitated for the Presidency of the United States. The reign of the slaveocracy is hastening to a close. The rejection of Henry Clay by the whig convention, taken in connection with all the circumstances, is one of the heaviest blows the monster slavery has received in this country. \* \* \* Whether the cause of Human Rights has gained any thing in Gen. Harrison, beyond the fact that he is not a slaveholder, we cannot say. It has certainly gained by the rejection of Mr. Clay. Many abolitionists have heretofore expressed the belief that the old General has repented of his efforts to extend slavery to Indiana, and his opposition to its extinction in the Missouri Territory; and that he is now not only "convinced of the great evil," but willing to favor wise and lawful efforts for its general removal. But we shall wait to hear his sentiments from an authentic source before we believe all this. The unanimity of the Convention in nominating for the second office a more bigotted devotee of Colonization and slavery than even Henry Clay, shows that the "party" is as anxious as ever to testify its unshaken allegiance to the Slave Power; while the prompt determination of the slaveholding delegates to transfer their support from Clay to Harrison is presumptive evidence that they had satisfied themselves of him.

Mr Garrison of the Liberator has the following paragraph:

NOMINATION OF GEN. HARRISON.—The National Whig Convention, assembled at Harrisburgh on the 6th inst. nominated William Henry Harrison for the office of President of the United States. On the first and second ballot, the vote stood for Henry Clay 103; for Harrison 94; for Winfield Scott, 57. On the third ballot, the vote was for Harrison, 148; for Clay, 90; for Scott, 16. All the slave States went for Clay. We regard this as another important sign of the times—as a signal defeat of the slaveholding power in this country. Had it not been for abolitionism, Henry Clay would undoubtedly have been nominated.—We have faith to believe, that no slaveholder will ever again be permitted to fill the Presidential office in this republic. As to the nomination of Gen. Harrison, we shall take occasion to remark upon it hereafter.

Friend Whittier, of the Pennsylvania Freeman, is rather laconic:

#### WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON

Has been nominated by the Harrisburgh (whig) Convention, by a large majority. Henry Clay is President of the American Colonization Society.—This must for the present satisfy his ambition.

THE PATROON AND HIS TENANTS.—The tenants of the Van Rensselaer manor, which comprise two or three towns in Albany county, New York, having refused to pay rent any longer, resisted the executions which were levied upon them, the Sheriff of the county called out a thousand citizens to sustain him in executing his legal process. A long train of stages, barouches, waggon, horsemen, pedestrians, &c., started from Albany on Monday for the scene of action. The Advertiser of Tuesday says:—

We hear that the Sheriff, with a detachment of the posse, reached Clark's tavern yesterday afternoon—that a large number (variously estimated from five to fifteen hundred) of the resistants were in the vicinity—and that a party had been entered into by the two parties. The complexion of the different intelligence is still decidedly pacific. So we trust it will continue.

## THE VOICE OF FREEDOM.

MONTPELIER SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1839

### SECOND VOLUME.

The Second Volume of the *Voice of Freedom* is to be published under a new arrangement, by which the State Anti-Slavery Society, will conditionally assume the responsibility of the publication. The subscriber will continue in the editorial charge, and also have the oversight and management of the printing department. The form and size will be as heretofore,—the quality of the paper firmer and better, and the price as follows:

To single subscribers, \$1.50, in advance, or \$2.00 at the end of the year.

Four copies, to one address, for \$5.00.

Ten copies, to one address, for \$10.00.

A prospectus will immediately be forwarded to our friends, and we trust no time will be lost in filling up for the new year.

C. L. KNAPP.

Dec. 20, 1839.

### PROSPECTUS OF VOLUME SECOND.

Impressed with the importance of keeping open a convenient medium of communication among the abolitionists of Vermont, and desirous, meanwhile, of giving permanence, and a much wider circulation to a paper specially devoted to the cause of our enslaved countrymen, the executive committee of the state anti-slavery society will, after the closing of the present volume, conditionally assume the responsibility of the publication. The *Voice* will be continued in its present form and size, with a firmer and better quality of paper, and at a price so much reduced as to place it within the reach of poverty itself.

The subscriber expects to continue in the editorial charge, and will also take the entire oversight and management of the printing department. It will be his aim, as heretofore, to keep steadily in view the great purpose of the anti-slavery association, and to give effect, by all means sanctioned by humanity and religion, to the momentous principles on which it is based. In regard to particular modes of action by abolitionists, he hopes to be spared from advocating any policy that shall mar the harmony and fellowship which have signalized the progress of our cause in Vermont. If such hope cannot be realized without a surrendry of principle, he will be ready to leave his post to be occupied by another.

It is believed that, at no period in the progress of our cause have the signs of the times been more auspicious, than at the present. Truth, faithfully proclaimed in the nation's ear, is executing the sublime purpose and promise of its Author. The Deliverer of Egypt's bondmen is saying to the North, Give up, and to the South, Keep not back. The nation is well nigh in a state of moral conviction—sullen conviction, it may be, but pregnant with hope to the eye of Faith. How vast, how awful the responsibilities of this crisis! How needful that those, who are battling for the right, should be constantly provided with the moral armor of our warfare—that messengers be sent from post to post, at short intervals, making true report of the position of the enemy, and cheering on the invincible host of Oppression's foes! With these ends, we send forth our prospectus for another volume. To our friends we say, give us your prayers, for we greatly need them—your patronage, for faith without works is dead—your persevering co-operation, for with these, and the superadded blessing of God, we may live to exchange the conflict of this 'glorious war' for the song of triumph.

C. L. KNAPP.

### "The second, sober thought."

We find ourselves to have been too hasty in ascribing the authorship of the late attack upon us, in the *Vermont Mercury*, to a citizen of Woodstock, who was indirectly alluded to, though not by name. We are now given to understand, by that gentleman himself, that he had no participation in the writing or publication of the obnoxious article. We are gratified to learn from the same paper, that the gentleman in question has, at the present, no connexion whatever with the *Mercury*, and that Mr. N. HASKELL is the person who claims the exclusive credit of editing the paper. It is proper to add here, that it is but a few months since we were informed by the gentleman first alluded to, not that he was the editor proper of the paper, but an occasional contributor to its columns. We grant, however, that this was too slender a pretext for charging him with the authorship of such an article. We are now satisfied that nobody but N. Haskell could have written it. Had we suspected this, before making our reply, we should have been silent; but to feel that one is unjustly censured by such a man as NORMAN WILLIAMS, was quite another affair.

### The Townshend Resolutions—all right.

The following note, from brother Graves, the Secretary of the late Anti-Slavery Convention at Townshend, will show that the publication of the resolution on Colonization, purporting to have been adopted by that Convention, was the result of inadvertence. The substitute, which was adopted, is of the right stamp,—just the resolution one might expect from a body of abolitionists in old Windham, where the anti-slavery banner, in Vermont was first unfurled to the free breezes of the mountains. We hereby acquit our brethren of all suspicion of heterodoxy on a question upon which intelligent men, at this time of day, have no excuse for speaking in the subjunctive mood.

Townshend, Dec. 10, 1839.

Mr. Knapp.—The fourth resolution in the published report of the Quarterly Anti-Slavery Convention, holden at Townshend, and which was the subject of remark in your paper of last week, was erroneously inserted. The resolution that was passed, and which should have been the one sent, is the following:—

"Resolved, That the colonization scheme, though plausible in theory, is impracticable and unjust in execution. It was created, and is upheld, mainly, by southern influence, southern interests, and southern munificence, and is no doubt sincere in one of its professions—It has nothing to do with slavery."

N. GRAVES, Secretary.

REMITTANCES BY MAIL.—A Postmaster may enclose the money in a letter to the publisher of a newspaper to pay the subscription of a third person, and frank the letter, if written by himself; but if the letter be written by any other person, the postmaster cannot frank it."

AMOS KENDALL.

H. W. W. MILLER.

It is known to some of our readers that the above named individual has been figuring for a month or more, in various parts of the state, as an anti-slavery lecturer. On commencing a tour in September, he sent us a list of appointments for publication in the *Voice*. We declined giving the notices, for reasons frankly assigned to him at the time. Nothing daunted, however, by this, he got his notices into the *Universalist Watchman*, falsely stating to the editor of that journal, that we had declined on political grounds. Hearing, a few days since, that Miller had been lecturing in Barnard, Bradford, and other places, pretending to be an agent of the American Anti-Slavery Society, and hearing further, that he had taken up collections, repeatedly, in his assumed character of agent, we lost no time in addressing a letter of inquiry to the Executive Committee at New York. By their reply, under date of Dec. 11, 1839, we are officially informed, that "H. W. W. Miller never was an agent, or in any way employed or authorized to lecture, collect moneys, or do any other service on behalf of the American Anti-Slavery Society." It is perhaps unnecessary to add, that the Vermont State Society have never given him any license to act in their behalf.

### TWENTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.

#### FIRST SESSION.

It was mentioned in our last that Mr. Adams had been called to preside in the "meeting" of Representatives. But the difficulty had not been settled at our latest dates. The proceedings have been as follows:—

Mr. Wise brought forward the old proposition that the Clerk should forthwith proceed to call the roll anew, including the New Jersey members having the governor's certificate of election. Thus the very difficulty on which the house has all along split was revived, and with it endless and irregular discussions. At every turn, the question recurs, Who has the right to vote? and on the adjournment on Tuesday, the question seemed to be as far from being settled as ever. In the course of the debates on that day, Mr. Slade presented the following picture of the present condition of the House.

We are further off, he said, from an organization now than a week ago. Instead of untying the knot, which the Clerk has tied,—we have cut it by choosing a Chairman. But we cut one knot, and tied three more, of still greater difficulty. We are now in a condition that we can't decide a question; before we were in a condition that no question could be put. We are thrown off, at every step, upon a collateral issue—the question who shall vote. We are moving round in a circle—we come back at last upon this question: upon every appeal and motion it arises—and so we go on ad infinitum. A Babel, after the confusion of tongues, could not be in a worse condition for organization than we are. We are like a ship tossed on the ocean, without rudder, or compass, or helmsman. We have wind enough from all quarters, but it does not carry us into port. We are in no condition to

decide the question who shall vote; and we should not presume to decide it, before we are sworn. It is a burlesque on a judicial proceeding to proceed in this way. How shall we get a house? One way is to call the roll, and we find we cannot do it. The sooner we abandon the idea the better. We could have a house, if my friends from New Jersey would agree to stand aside and not vote. Unless they will decline voting, we cannot organize the House by calling the roll.

The two parties appear to be very nearly balanced on every question that comes up. Mr. Adams having declined, as Chairman of the meeting, on Monday, that the tellers should count only the votes of those members from N. J. who presented the legal certificates from the Governor, an appeal was made from this decision, and on Tuesday it was reversed by a vote of 114 to 106. After this reversal of his decision, Mr. Adams proposed that all who chose to do so should vote, and that, if any votes shall be disputed, the tellers shall report the names. Should the disputed votes not vary the result the Chair will call upon the House to decide whether they shall be received. This was agreed to by acclamation. The meeting then, after some debate, came to the vote on the motion of Mr. Rhetts to lay on the table the motion of Mr. Wise, that the Clerk be directed to call the roll, including all legally certificated and commissioned members. The tellers declared 115 in the affirmative, with no disputed votes; and 114 in the negative, one disputed vote, (Mr. Naylor's) having passed through. Mr. Adams voted in the negative, and made a tie; so the motion was lost.

A motion to adjourn was then made, and taken by tellers. The tellers declared 116 in the affirmative, including the votes of three disputed members; and 113 in the negative, including three disputed votes; the Chair said, whether counted or not counted, the disputed votes made no difference, and that the meeting now stood adjourned.

Mr. Kempshall of New York, having arrived in Washington on Tuesday, every member of the House of Representatives was at his post, an occurrence probably unprecedented in the history of the government.

On Wednesday, there seemed to be some prospect of an organization:—

"The Representative body, although not yet relieved from all the impediments which have hitherto so unfortunately suspended its organizing, made yesterday, we think, some perceptible approaches towards an adjustment of the difficulty; sufficiently so, in our opinion to authorize the agreeable hope that the House will be constituted and Congress under way without much more delay. We most sincerely congratulate our readers and fellow citizens generally on the prospect of a termination to a strife which has presented the National Representatives in a light painful to the whole country, and which they themselves, we know, deeply regret.—*Intelligencer.*

Proceedings on the New Jersey Case.—It will be seen, by the Congressional report in our columns, that the Democrats have gained three points in the question now before the House. A day or two since it was decided, on the appeal from the Chairman's decisions, that the Representatives of the Governor should not vote. The House at last, voting on the rights of all the claimants from New Jersey, individually, confirmed its previous decision, that none of them should vote.

The second point gained was the rejection of Mr. Wise's resolution, proposed originally by Mr. Graves, directing the Clerk to call to seats in the House the illegally commissioned claimants from New Jersey, which was voted down by one hundred and eighteen nays, to one hundred and fifteen yeas.

The third point in the proceedings determined by the House, was that embraced in Mr. Rhetts's resolution, which provides for the call of the roll of the House, excluding the contested claimants from New Jersey: and that the controversy between them, touching the election, the returns, the qualifications, shall be decided by the House before the election of the Speaker. This, of course, will enable the body to look behind the Government's certificate.—*Globe.*

### From the Commercial Advertiser.

#### FROM ALBANY—IMPORTANT.

We have alarming news from Albany. The Sheriff has made a second attempt to execute process against some of the tenants of the Patroon, at the head of a large body of the posse comitatus and had been unable to do so.

The insurgents were embodied, to the number, as it was reported, of one thousand strong—with two field pieces, and other arms and munitions. In this emergency, the aid of the military arm of the Government has become necessary to the due execution of the civil law.

It would not, however, have been politic to order the militia of Albany, or its neighborhood, into the field, and the commander-in-chief has therefore very wisely directed a competent body of troops from this city, to hold themselves in readiness to repair to the insurgent district at two hours notice, as will appear by the following general order from Major General Sanford:—

#### FIRST DIVISION N. Y. S. ARTILLERY.

##### DIVISION ORDERS.

(No. 53.)

New York, Dec. 9, 1 o'clock P. M.

The Major General has received orders from the Commander-in-Chief to hold in readiness a large detachment from this division to embark for Albany upon two hours notice.

To make arrangements for this emergency, the division is directed to assemble THIS EVENING in the drill rooms over Centre Market, at 7 1/2 o'clock precisely, in citizens' dress, with military hats or caps—the officers with side arms, and the privates with their usual arms—the cavalry dismounted, with their sabres.

By order of Major General Sanford.

S. D. JACKSON, Div. Ins.

#### SIXTH BRIGADE N. Y. S. ARTILLERY.

##### BRIGADE ORDER.

New York Dec. 9, 1 o'clock P. M.

The several regiments and battalions of this brigade will assemble as above directed by the Major General of Division.

By order of Brig. Gen. GEO. P. MORRIS.

JOHN W. C. LEVERIDGE, Paymaster 6th Brigade N. Y. S. A.

We are further informed that the commander-in-chief has chartered two large steamers to convey the troops to Albany, should it actually become necessary for them to take the field, and it is anticipated that orders for their departure will be received to-morrow morning.

The two boats arrived at 1 o'clock. Another express is to come down to night.

The orders have already been sent through the city, and the men are expected to parade this evening.

The troops to go up are the 1st division artillery, under the command of Gen. Sanford, comprising the 1st Brigade under Gen. Hunt, and 6th Brigade under Gen. Geo. P. Morris, in all 2000 men, 16 field pieces, and 3 companies of cavalry.

The order from Albany is from the Governor himself, and, though short, imperative.

The report is that the Albany posse and troops have had a skirmish with the tenants, and been beaten and driven off the ground.

FLORIDA ARMY.—During the past fall, and up to the period of our last advices, the army in Florida had been and was afflicted with the most distressing disease. The mortality amongst both officers and soldiers has been appalling. Many of the most gallant and promising commissioned officers have fallen victims to the distempers of the country; and the rank and file have been thin-